

UNC System Educator Preparation Advisory Group

North Carolina State Board of Education
Wednesday, January 9, 2018

Presented on behalf of the Advisory Group Co-Chairs:
Ann Clark, Marilyn Sheerer, and Anthony Graham

Context for the UNC System Educator Preparation Advisory Group

- **During the 2017-18 Academic Year, UNC System President Margaret Spellings commissioned an initial review of curriculum and practice of the 14 undergraduate teacher preparation programs that license bachelors recipients to teach in elementary and middle schools with an explicit focus on how faculty teach reading**

Impetus for the Review: Impact of High Quality P-12 Teachers



**Anemic, stagnant North Carolina
P-12 student proficiency rates
particularly in reading and math**

Persistent achievement gaps

**P-12 students' lack of access
to educational opportunities**

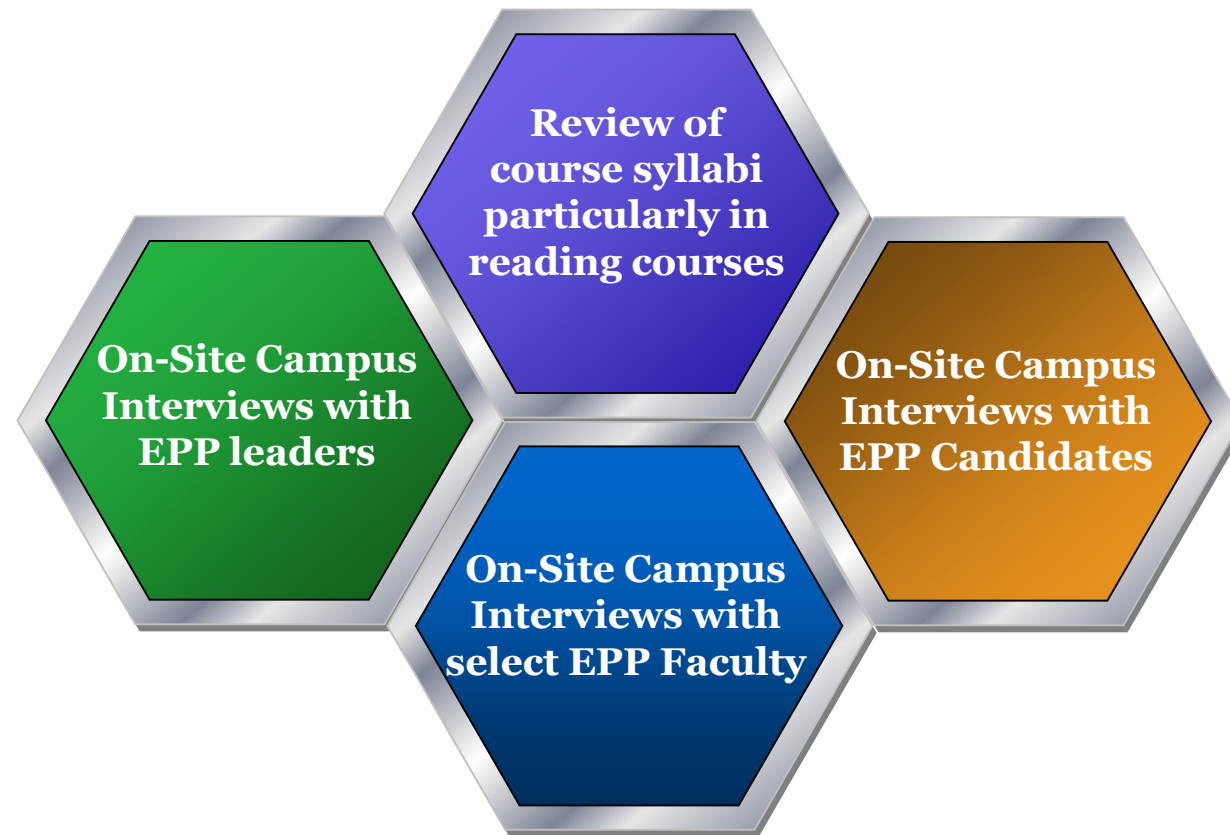
**Focus on the role of
teacher preparation at
UNC Institutions as the
state's largest source of
public school teachers**

Methodology

Focus of the Review

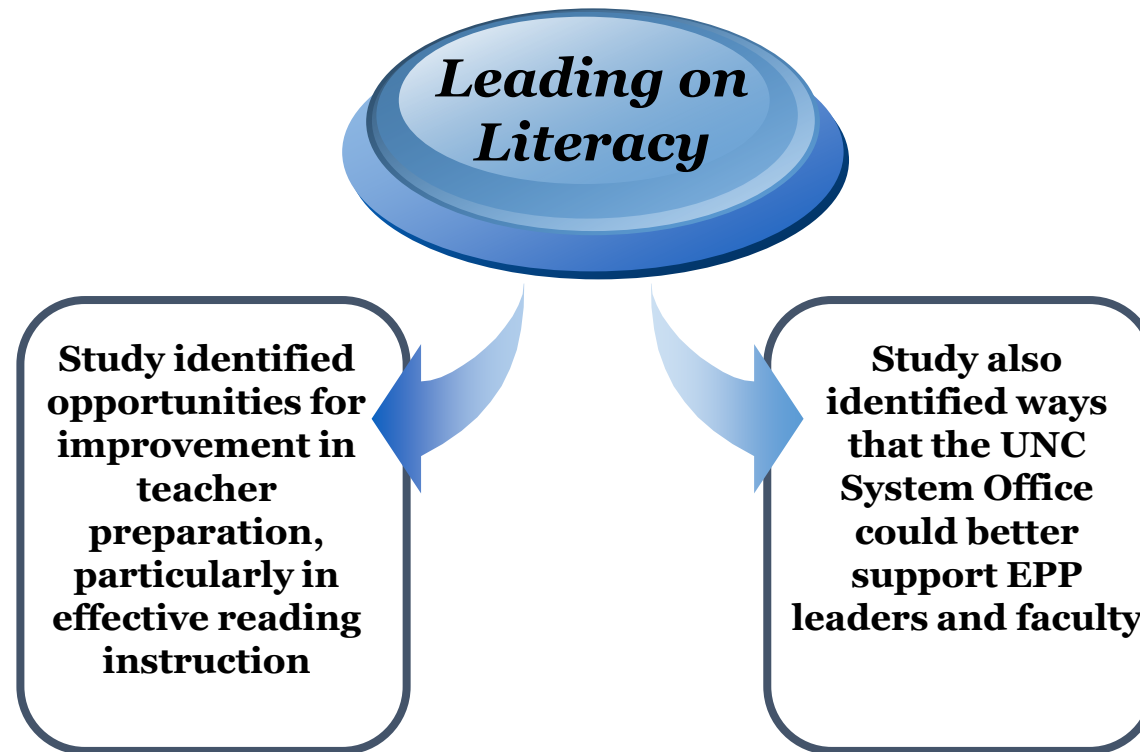
- **Three reviewers with expertise in reading research and educational policy tasked with visiting each of the 14 UNC System institutions that offer an undergraduate degree leading to teacher licensure in elementary or middle grades**
- **Goals of the review were:**
 - **To understand the current work and contributions of EPPs**
 - **To understand the challenges EPPs face**
 - **To examine how EPPs incorporate the latest research and best practices into their respective programs**
 - **To explore the integration of evidence-based approaches into the teaching of reading**
 - **To assess the alignment of these approaches with state content standards**

Reviewers' On-Campus Visits of Educator Preparation Programs



Report Recommendations

Report Findings



11 Recommendations

- **#1: Encourage Educator Preparation Programs (EPPs) within the UNC System to agree on a limited number of skills that all teachers need to have mastered by day one.**
- **#2: Sponsor colloquia at which recent research is presented and implications for classroom practice are explored**
- **#3: Help EPPs identify successful recruitment strategies for teacher candidates.**
- **#4: Work with EPPs to review all courses in each program, paying particular attention to the sequencing and depth of literacy courses.**
- **#5: Help facilitate early, deliberate, scaffolded, and aligned field experiences.**

11 Recommendations (cont'd)

- **#6: Assist EPPs in incorporating the NC Standard Course of Study more visibly into the work of teacher education candidates.**
- **#7: Address the challenges posed by the requirement that candidates must pass a series of certification examinations.**
- **#8: Provide opportunities to better understand and utilize the Educator Quality Dashboard.**
- **#9: Provide support to faculty on the implementation of edTPA.**
- **#10: Examine new requirements from recently passed legislation and develop a strategy to support EPPs in meeting them.**
- **#11: Establish future studies to examine areas not covered in the *Leading on Literacy* report.**

Advisory Group Membership and Charge

Immediate Action Item Recommended in the Report

- **UNC System Office convened the Educator Preparation Advisory Group comprised of education experts across P-12 and higher education with the mission to support and accelerate improvement of teacher preparation in North Carolina.**

Membership List

Co-Chairs		
Ann Clark	Former Superintendent	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools
Anthony Graham	Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs	Winston-Salem State University
Marilyn Sheerer	Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs	UNC Wilmington
Members		
Erika Berry	Senior Policy Advisor	NC Department of Public Instruction
Carmen Concepcion	Principal, Charlotte East Language Academy	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools
Andrew Houlihan	Superintendent	Union County Public Schools
Steve Lassiter	Asst. Superintendent	Pitt County Schools
Michael Maher	Assistant Dean for Professional Education and Accreditation	NC State University
Ellen McIntyre	Dean, College of Education	UNC Charlotte
Keith Sutton	Board Member	Wake County Public Schools
Lynne Vernon-Feagans	Professor of Early Childhood, Intervention and Literacy	UNC Chapel Hill
Kellee Watkins	Assistant Professor of Education	NC A&T University
Sheila Williams	Department Chair	Elizabeth City State University
Kim Winter	Dean, College of Education and Allied Professions	Western Carolina University
Hundley Rhyne	North Carolina Teaching Fellow	UNC Chapel Hill
Ex-Officio		
Johanna Anderson	Executive Director	Belk Foundation
Sheila Brown	former Asst. Superintendent	Boston Public Schools
John Denning	Senior Program Officer	Gates Foundation
Susan Gates	Special Advisor on Education	SAS
Ben Riley	Executive Director	Deans for Impact

UNC System Educator Preparation Advisory Group Charge

**EPP Deans
and Faculty
alongside P12
Educators
will ...**

Examine current data and performance trends to identify key areas of focus

Develop goals for EPPs that signal high expectations, continuous improvement

Prioritize strategies to move EPPs to achieve goals with focus on early literacy

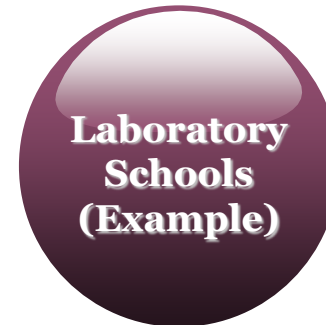
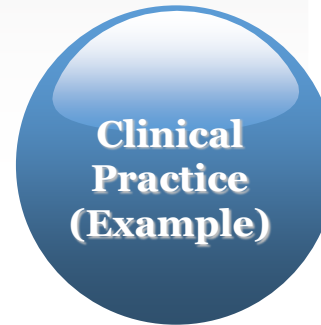
Identify potential partnerships and supports to advance EPPs' work

Oversee and share information about implementation of strategies

Communities of Practice

Communities of Practice: A Responsive Approach to EPP Improvement

Comprised primarily of EPP faculty and leadership that identify 1 or more areas they most need to work



Early Learning and Literacy Community of Practice

1

**Partnership between
UNC System Office and
Deans For Impact, a
national nonprofit
organization dedicated
to transforming
educator preparation**

2

**COP will examine
how to incorporate
insights from
learning science,
particularly around
the development of
literacy, numeracy,
and student agency,
into EPP design**

3

**COP will also explore
opportunities to
update and improve
state policies related
to early literacy and
early childhood
educator preparation**

4

**Open Call to EPPs
with an application
submission deadline
date of January 25th
with selected
participants engaged
in solutions-focused
discussions
facilitated by Deans
For Impact**

Advisory Group Next Steps



Questions
